

BUNDY BACKS WASHINGTON CUBA POLICY

C. Of C. Panel Agrees On Need To Avoid War As Means

By RODNEY CROUTHIER

(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, April 23—A ranking Presidential adviser, McGeorge Bundy, today told the delegates to the United States Chamber of Commerce annual meeting that short of going to war the Administration is doing all that can reasonably be expected to stem the advance of Communism in Cuba.

He said that critics of the Administration's Cuban policy should be willing to state whether they would prefer going to war to get rid of Castro and his Communist regime.

Bundy so challenged the nation's business men as a member of a panel of four experts on American foreign policy who in general accepted the view that acts of war to solve the Cuban problem should be avoided.

Dodd Would Not Send Marines

Senator Dodd (D., Conn.), frequently a severe critic of Administration policy toward Communism, said, "I agree with Mr. Bundy—I don't think we should send Marines into Cuba."

Dr. Walter H. Judd, a former member of Congress, who was a leading GOP member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, agreed that war must be avoided, but insisted upon much more firmness toward Cuba and communism in general than has been shown.

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Harvard professor of international law, who has been both an adviser to the Pentagon, and lately an adviser to Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York on foreign policy, said the Administration made a mistake last October when it did not follow up its pressure on Russia even after Khrushchev agreed to take the missiles home from Cuba.

Ended "Crisis Too Quickly"

"We wound up the crisis too quickly and deluded ourselves into thinking that the Russian agreement was a breakthrough to peace," the Harvard professor declared.

The panel discussion of Cuban policy, which was a strong demand by the chamber's president, H. Louis Plumley, that the Kennedy Administration take stern steps to halt the advance of communism in the Western Hemisphere.

He declared that business men generally believe that the Administration is not following a course that deals "resolutely with this matter of Communist infiltration on an island 90 miles from our shores."

Bundy was asked to tell the chamber members "what is our policy on Cuba?"

He said the major elements of our Cuban policy are:

1. To prevent the establishment of a Communist military strength in Cuba that could be a threat to the security of the United States or could be used to expand Communism to the rest of the hemisphere.

2. To isolate Castro from the free world by obtaining agreements with our allies to reduce trade with Cuba.

3. To build strong counteractive forces against Communism by promoting social and economic programs in Latin America.

4. To follow a course of vigilant watchfulness.

5. To follow a policy of not imposing a naval blockade of Cuba and not to invade Cuba.

There was also a spirited discussion, and pronounced disagreement, among the panelist experts, about United States policy in the current Laos troubles.

Bundy told the Chamber delegates that "we have taken a strong stand for an independent and neutral Laos," that the Soviets had agreed to such a neutral Laos and that "we feel that it is important that the agreement be kept."

Declines Definite Laos Plans

He declined, however, to discuss what steps the Government is prepared to take to force a reaffirmation of the Laos agreement.

Dr. Judd complained that, after President Kennedy at the start of his Administration had made an "unanswerable presentation as to why we cannot allow the Communists to take over Laos, affirmative action did not follow."

Bundy rejected the idea that a "Korea-type war" could solve the Laos problem.

Herter Cautiously Hopeful

Christian A. Herter, United States special representative for trade negotiations under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, told an international luncheon of chamber delegates that while formidable problems confront the United States in pushing for freer world trade, the job must be "done for the good of the free world."

Herter said that failure of Great Britain to gain Common Market membership limits our trade negotiating leeway but nevertheless he feels that "the damage this does to our negotiating position has been greatly exaggerated."

The list of products on which we must have negotiated 100 per cent tariff reduction is now restricted, Herter said, to aircraft, vegetable oil and perfume.

"Array Of Cards To Play"

"We are still able to lower tariffs by 50 per cent on all but a few items," he said, and on certain others even more.

"This array presents us with a broad array of cards to play at the negotiating table," he added.

When bargaining does finally get under way, Herter said, this country will insist that farm products as well as industrial products be included in the talks; that agreements must be made on an across-the-board percentage basis, instead of on a commodity-by-commodity basis; and that "tariff" barriers, as well as "non-tariff" barriers, are the subject of negotiation and reduction in next year's round of talks.

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